

Wabash Plain Dealer

\$3

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Tomorrow's weather

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WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 6, 2021



Pulse of Wabash

Notice to readers

To reduce risks to our employees and community, the Wabash Plain Dealer is closed to the public until further notice. Payments may be mailed to Wabash Plain Dealer, P.O. Box 309, Marion, IN 46952, or called in. For news, call 260-225-4662 or email news@wabashplaindealer.com. For advertising, call 260-225-4947 or email vwilliams@hponline.com. For circulation and customer support, call 260-563-2131. The Wabash Plain Dealer is committed to providing the best product to its customers and appreciates the support during this time. For more local news content, please visit wabashplaindealer.com where you will find all of the news that could not fit into today's edition. Get your news faster by activating your online account which is included in your print subscription rates. Our stories appear online in an easy-to-read format as they are completed. Thank you for your support through this pandemic.

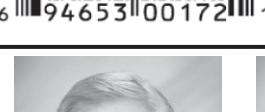
American Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunities

The American Red Cross has scheduled regular blood drives from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6 at Northfield High School, 154 W. 200 North; and from 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13 at Richvalley Community Center, 56 Mill St. Also, a blood drive in honor of Kole Adamiec, 6, of North Manchester, who is fighting cancer, has been scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 at Manchester Elementary School, 301 S. River Road, North Manchester. To donate blood, simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 800-RED-CROSS.

See PULSE, page A4

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Paul Markiewicz
Registered Principal



Erica Markiewicz
Registered Representative

16 N. Miami St., Peru
765-473-7211

Only a few days left to nominate 'Best of Wabash'

The deadline to submit entries for this year's contest is Thursday, Oct. 14

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Nominations are now open for the Plain Dealer's annual Best of Wabash County contest.

However, the window to submit your favorites will close soon. This means if you have any intention of highlighting the best in your community, you have only a few days left to do so.

Nominations for the contest began Wednesday, Sept. 29, and they will close Thursday, Oct. 14.

All nominations and voting are done online.

Please visit <https://wabashplaindealer.secondstreetapp.com/Wabash-County's-Greatest-2021/> to get started.

After round one nominations are completed and we tally the votes to determine the top three winners of each category, we will begin the voting to select winners. Voting starts on Saturday, Oct. 23. Winners will be announced on Saturday, Nov. 20.

The categories are listed

under 10 groups:

- Greatest Entertainment: Bingo, Bowling Center, Festival or Event, Golf Course and Live Theatre.
 - Greatest Food: Greatest Buffet, Family Restaurant, Casual Restaurant, Fine Dining, Sports Bar
- See **BEST OF**, page A4

ISDH: Nearly all current COVID-19 deaths unvaccinated

94th, 95th Wabash County virus deaths reported as local vaccinations still lag

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Over the weekend, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) reported the 94th and 95th COVID-19 deaths in Wabash County.

Since the pandemic began, Wabash County has now tallied more than 5,000 cases of COVID-19 total.

On Tuesday, ISDH deputy chief of staff and Office of Public Affairs director Jennifer O'Malley said with the dashboard now updating only at 5 p.m. weekdays, and not on weekends as they used to, Monday's dashboard update will always reflect zero new deaths "because the dashboard captures information from the past 24 hours and is not updated over the weekend."

"Deaths reported over the weekend are included in Tuesday's totals. All deaths reported on the dashboard are those in which the death certificate lists COVID," said O'Malley.

O'Malley said according to their most recent data chronicling the recent surge of COVID-19 infections, "the vast majority of deaths are occurring among people who are not vaccinated."

According to the ISDH's most recent data on COVID-19 in Indiana, for the week of Thursday, Sept.

See **COVID**, page A9

Students in WHS course to restore historic electric car



Provided photo

In August, the Wabash County Museum acquired a 1980 Comuta-Car.

Wabash County Museum recently acquired 1980 Comuta-Car

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

In August, the Wabash County Museum acquired a piece of electric vehicle history.

The question was, though, how to restore the 1980 Comuta-Car.

Wabash County Museum executive director Teresa Galley "immediately began brainstorming on how to get it restored."

"Eventually, she came upon the idea of having the stu-

dents in the Wabash High School (WHS) Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Principles of Engineering course do the work. When approached with the idea, the students and teacher jumped at the prospect of bringing a piece of history they never even knew about back to life," said WHS assistant principal Jeff Galley.

Jeff Galley said the museum's version is a second generation of the vehicle.

"Our goal is to get this little car back on the road, even if it is only in downtown Wabash,"

said Teresa Galley. "This will be an amazing addition to our vehicle collection that already includes a caboose and a 1971 firetruck."

Jeff Galley said this was the most widely-sold electric vehicle in the United States until the Tesla Model S came out in 2012.

"With less room than a golf cart and the design of a doorstop, the Comuta-Car line is recognized as the first mass-produced electric vehicle for the general public in the late 1970s and into the

early 1980s, manufactured by Commuter Vehicles," said Jeff Galley. "What was originally produced as a solution to the economic and energy crisis issues of the '70s and '80s is today a physical lesson in not only history but how alternative energy can survive the ages and still be impactful decades later."

Jeff Galley said when they were approached with the idea, "the students and teacher jumped at the prospect of

See **ELECTRIC CAR**, page A9

See **COVID**, page A9

Wabash native Michael Palascak to perform Thursday

'Last Comic Standing' contestant to take Eagles Theatre stage

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

A Wabash native is returning to his hometown this week after launching a successful comedy career.

Michael Palascak is a comedian, writer, and actor now based in Los Angeles. He's done stand-up on "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert," "The Late Late Show with James Corden," "Conan," "Comedy Central's Half Hour" and was a Top 5 Finalist on "Last Comic Standing."

Palascak will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct.

7 at the Honeywell Arts & Entertainment's Eagles Theatre. The performance is sponsored by Dorais Chevrolet Buick GMC.

Tickets are on sale now and are available by calling 260-563-1102 or online at HoneywellArts.org.

All seats are \$20.

"It's one of my favorite

See **PALASKA**, page A2

Manchester University Homecoming Concert is Friday, Oct. 8

It features A Cappella Choir, Chamber Singers and Jazz Ensemble

By ANNE GREGORY

The Manchester University Music Department will present the annual

Homecoming Concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8.

The concert will be in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus. General admission is free with a suggested donation of \$5. Mask and social distancing are required.

See **CONCERT**, page A9

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Attendees of the tour will spend their time "visiting a hidden gravesite, walking a haunted trail and examining the remains of a notorious killer."

Fright Night Trolley No. 85 Tour planned for Friday, Oct. 22

STAFF REPORT

Visit Wabash County has announced the Fright Night Trolley No. 85 Tour, according to marketing manager Whitney Millspaugh.

"Prepare to be spooked throughout the night visiting a hidden gravesite, walking a haunted trail and examining the remains of a notorious killer," said Millspaugh.

The tour will take place from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 22, is \$30 per person, and will begin at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center in downtown Wabash.

You must be 21 years of age or older to sign up.

"Led by history enthusiast Heather Allen and Wabash

County Museum archives director TJ Honeycutt, this tour will explore the continuing tale about the infamous John Hubbard. With their research and knowledge of the legends and lore of Wabash County, this tour is sure to send chills down your spine," said Millspaugh.

Snacks and cocktails will be served along the tour.

"Fright Night is one of our most popular tours of the year," said Visit Wabash County tourism manager Jennifer Long-Dillon. "With so much eerie history in Wabash County, I am thrilled to partner with the Wabash

County Museum to bring you an awesome, bone-chilling experience. Tickets will sell out fast, so don't wait to

sign up."

Tickets for the Fright Night Trolley No. 85 Tour are \$30 per person and all-inclusive. This is a tour for those ages 21 and up and participants must be able to walk unassisted, as there will be uneven ground and long walking required.

For more information, visit www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours or 221 S. Miami St. or call 260-563-7171.

Payment is due upon registration.

Visit Wabash County would like to thank First Farmers Bank & Trust for sponsoring this tour and J.M. Reynolds Oil Company, Inc. for being the official fuel provider for Trolley No. 85.

Delta Kappa Gamma International holds state convention

STAFF REPORT

Indiana State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) held its "Celebrate the Society" convention Saturday, June 12 at the Primo Banquet and Convention Center in Indianapolis, according to Nancy Kolb.

Alpha Zeta Chapter members attending were Roxanne Thomas, Barb Overdever, Donna Ott, Barb Buroker, Carol Herzog, Mary Lou Fries, Mary Catherine Palmer and Chapter President Ann Ambler.

At the convention, there

was a Ceremony of Remembrance, a business meeting, entertainment, a luncheon, recognition of chapter presidents, installation of state officers, and an Honors program.

Indiana State Organization Officers installed for the 2021-2023 biennium are:

- President: Stephanie Walsh
- First Vice President: Tiffany Ingles
- Second Vice President: Mary Catherine Palmer (from Alpha Zeta Chapter)
- Secretary: Nancy Durham

During the Honors program Alpha Zeta members received

the following certificates:

- 25-year member: Mary Catherine Palmer
- 40-year member: Donna Ott
- 60-year member: Mary Lou Fries (mother of Mary Catherine Palmer)

Alpha Zeta Chapter received a Golden Key Honors Award certificate and a 5 Star Newsletter Award.

A silent basket auction raised \$1,200 for the DKG Emergency Fund. Alpha Zeta Chapter donated two baskets.

Alpha Zeta Chapter members are from Grant, Huntington, Wabash and Whitley counties.

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International holds Sept. meeting

STAFF REPORT

Alpha Zeta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) met Saturday, Sept. 18, according to Nancy Kolb.

Committee Reports included:

Professional Affairs: Grants-in-Aid applications were handed out. Current teachers should apply for these scholarships as the money may be used for projects in the classroom or workshops.

Personal Growth: Karen Kinney read, "We Are in a Book" (An Elephant and Piggie Book) by Mo Willems. "Kinney wrote an article about how the chapter members stayed together by communicating and calling each other during the pandemic," said Kolb. "The article hopefully will be published in the November issue of the DKG collegial Magazine."

The opening thought was an original poem about the chapter by Brenda Landis. Prayer was given by Kolb. Continental breakfast was enjoyed by all.

The program, "Relationships: The Building Blocks of Teaching and Learning," was presented by Adam Drummond who is from the International Center for Leadership in Education.

"He stressed that no learning occurs without a relationship between the teacher and student. Teachers need to know their students' interests so they can connect content and curriculum to them and make learning relevant. Spending five minutes every day in a one-on-one uninterrupted conversation with a child would

add up to 900 minutes a year. Think of what that would do for that child," said Kolb.

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Personal Growth: Karen Kinney read, "We Are in a Book" (An Elephant and Piggie Book) by Mo Willems. "Kinney wrote an article about how the chapter members stayed together by communicating and calling each other during the pandemic," said Kolb. "The article hopefully will be published in the November issue of the DKG collegial Magazine."

The closing thought was given by Jadae Barnes "with words of wisdom from Winnie-the-Pooh."

The meeting adjourned at 11 a.m. with the singing of the "Delta Kappa Gamma Song."

Those members attending the meeting from Wabash County were Brenda Landis and Kolb.

Delta Kappa Gamma is a women's education society of key women educators. Alpha Zeta Chapter is made up of members who work or live in Grant, Huntington, Wabash or Whitley counties.

Those who have iPads or laptops are encouraged to bring them to the next meeting for a tutorial on how to record books for the Virtual Library.

Roxanne Thomas noted that Janet O'Neal, chair-

person of the Indiana State Organization Seminar for Personal Growth, reported that the Leadership Seminar will be held in November 2022 in Columbia City.

On Saturday, June 12, at the Indiana State Organization Convention, the Alpha Zeta Chapter received two awards – a 5 Star Newsletter Award and a golden Key Honor Award.

Indiana State Organization President Stephanie Walsh, challenged each chapter to increase their membership by 5 percent which would be four members for this chapter.

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Roxanne Thomas noted that Janet O'Neal, chair-

lives near the locations of those eight fires and has home security cameras to review footage from the dates of the fires and report anything suspicious to the sheriff's office.

The sheriff's office is investigating the fires with the State Fire Marshal's Office.

Culp asked anyone who

destroyed two barns in the southern part of the county last Friday.

"They were a total loss," said Capt. Mike Culp.

Friday's fires brought to eight the number of barns in the county that have been hit by fires since April, The Elkhart Truth reported.

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Obituaries

An example in New Orleans

Carson Coyle runs around like any healthy young boy. Coyle suffered brain damage at his birth two years ago, with hospital staff at one point predicting that he had just hours to live. But

Kathryn Lopez



happened – Coyle healed essentially overnight and is thriving today.

Coyle's recovery might just be the miracle that Seelos – who died in 1867, ministering to New Orleans residents during a yellow fever pandemic – needs to be recognized as a saint.

On a recent visit to his tomb, I stood in the confessional where Father Seelos would hear confessions for hours; people would line up to encounter God's mercy through the instrument of this German Redemptorist missionary priest, who always had time for people.

Seelos would sleep in his clothes in the room closest to the door so he could answer night calls for hospital runs. He famously heard the confession of a dying prostitute.

Before COVID hit, people flocked to his shrine for a closeness to him, with prayers for healing. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 2000, but locals have long considered him a saint.

To visit his shrine in New Orleans is to remember, in the wake of Hurricane Ida and in the continuing midst of the COVID pandemic, what is most important.

There is a power in virtuous living. Goodness can be more contagious than the delta variant.

Seelos had a clarity about life that he tried to impart at every opportunity.

He wouldn't flee from or bemoan suffering. To his brother, he wrote: "See your cross in the exact fulfilling of the duties of your state in life. Carry it daily by overcoming all anger and grumbling. Carry it willingly, make an offering of yourself to God for those

dear to you, and for the salvation of your soul. Through self-conquest all of us must earn heaven, and through self-denial, bring down blessings for this present life." He wasn't preaching from some lofty throne but was living alongside immigrants at a time of rampant anti-Catholicism.

To his sister, he wrote: "(W)hen the pleasure-loving animal in us is put to death through unremitting prayer, the daily fulfilling of our duty, constant self-denial and carrying of our cross, then everything becomes sweet; then we understand the value of suffering. Then a gentle and joyful aura radiates from our whole person ... It is the joy that our loving Redeemer gives to his followers, a peace that is the real sign of perfection and holiness."

That's the approach to life that kept him moving forward with joy. And he continues to be a model of how to live well with the limited time we have.

One contemporary priest testified: "It seemed to be a rule with him never to lose a moment's precious time. When not elsewhere employed, he was sure to be found in the oratory or in his room, praying, writing or studying."

We waste a lot of time, constantly looking at our phones or losing ourselves in the trivial busywork of everyday life. Could we make better use of it?

Such holy living is not for priests alone.

You don't have to be a Catholic Christian or know anything about Seelos beyond this column to find inspiration. We can all try to focus on the more important things while helping our neighbors. God has given us everything we need to find wholeness through love and service. We just need to use what he has given us.

Don't let distractions detract from living well. Father Seelos encourages us still.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book "A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living." She is also chair of Cardinal Dolan's pro-life commission in New York. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.

Russian film crew in orbit to make first movie in space

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

MOSCOW — A Russian actor and a film director rocketed to space Tuesday on a mission to make the world's first movie in orbit, a project the Kremlin said will help burnish the nation's space glory.

Actor Yulia Peresild and director Klim Shipenko blasted off for the International Space Station in a Russian Soyuz spacecraft together with cosmonaut Anton Shkaplerov, a veteran of three space missions.

Their Soyuz MS-19 lifted off as scheduled at 1:55 p.m. (0855 GMT) from the Russian space launch facility in Baikonur, Kazakhstan and arrived at the station after about 3½ hours.

Shkaplerov took manual controls to smoothly dock the spacecraft at the space outpost after a glitch in an automatic docking system.

The trio reported they were feeling fine and spacecraft systems were functioning normally.

Peresild and Klimenkov are to film segments of a new movie titled "Challenge," in which a surgeon played by Peresild rushes to the space station to save a crew member who needs an urgent operation in or-

bit. After 12 days on the space outpost, they are set to return to Earth with another Russian cosmonaut.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said the mission will help showcase Russia's space prowess.

"We have been pioneers in space and maintained a confident position," Peskov said. "Such missions that help advertise our achievements and space exploration in general are great for the country."

Speaking at a pre-flight news conference Monday, 37-year-old Peresild acknowledged that it was challenging for her to adapt to the strict discipline and rigorous demands during the training.

"It was psychological, physically and morally hard," she said. "But I think that once we achieve the goal, all that will seem not so difficult and we will remember it with a smile."

Shipenko, 38, who has made several commercially successful movies, also described their fast-track, four-month preparation for the flight as tough.

"Of course, we couldn't make many things at the first try, and sometimes even at a third attempt, but it's normal," he said.

Norma Jean Bradley, 72, Warsaw, died Oct. 1, 2021. She was born in Magoffin County, Kentucky on July 21, 1949.

Surviving is her husband, Gordon Bradley; daughters, Jeanette (Trent) Wuchter and Gordonell (Greg) Horton; brothers, John, Paul and Odell Wireman; sisters, Karen Hensley and Bernice Warrix; grandchildren, Trenton (Abi) Wuchter, Kyle

(Brittney) Wuchter, Morgan Wuchter, Chayla Wuchter, Gordon and Grant Horton; great-grandchildren, Cale Wuchter, Nova Wuchter, Eli Wuchter, Audrey Wuchter, Sawyer and Parker Goodsell.

Visitation Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2021 from 12 - 2 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 S.R. 114 West, North Manchester. Funeral services will begin at the conclusion of calling.

Robin Davis, 68, of Lagro,

passed away at 10:25 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 1, 2021.

A graveside service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2021, at McDonald Funeral Homes, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash.

Calling hours for friends

and family will be from

12 to 1:30 p.m. on Wednes-

day, Oct. 6, 2021, at Mc-

Donald Funeral Homes,

231 Falls Avenue,

Wabash, Indiana, 46992.

After the graveside ser-

vice, a dinner will be pro-

vided at the Lagro Commu-

nity Building in Lagro.

McDonald Funeral Homes,

231 Falls Avenue,

Wabash, Indiana, 46992.

Among the actions recom-

mended by the report were better warning systems for flood- and drought-prone areas that can identify, for example, when a river is expected to swell. Better financing and coordination among countries on water management is also needed, according to the report by the U.N.'s World Meteorological Organization, development agencies and other groups.

"We need to wake up to the looming water crisis," said Petteri Taalas, secretary general of the World Meteorological Organization. The report found that since 2000, flood-related disasters globally rose 134 percent compared with the previous two decades. Most flood-related deaths and economic losses were in Asia, where extreme rainfall caused massive flooding in China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal and Pakistan in the past year.

Norma Jean Bradley

July 21, 1949 - Oct. 1, 2021

Eleonore K. Smith

Feb. 18, 1934 - Sept. 30, 2021

Eleonore K. Smith, 87, of Wabash, passed away at 5:48 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021, at her residence.

She was born on Feb. 18, 1934, in Schweinfurt, Germany, to the late Johanne Mueller and Frieda V. Schaefer.

She is survived by five children. Harold Hensley of Piketon, Ohio, J.B. Hensley of Las Vegas, Nevada, Brenda (Chuck) McConnell

Preferred memorials are to St. Bernard Catholic Church, Wabash.

McDonald Funeral Homes,

231 Falls Avenue, Wabash,

Indiana, 46992, have been

trusted with Eleonore K.

Smith's final arrangements.

Online condolences may

be sent to the family at

www.mcdonaldfunerals.

com.

Frederick K. 'Bud' Arven

Frederick K. "Bud" Arven, 92, of LaFontaine, passed away at 11:45 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 1, 2021, at his residence.

Bud is survived by Sally, his loving wife of 71 years; one son, Brian K. Arven; three daughters, Teresa (Ralph) Skaggs, Debra (Michael) McKillip, and Jacalyn (Gary) Wilson; nine grandchil-

dren and 20 great-grand-

children.

Private family graveside services will be held at the LaFontaine IOOF Cemetery.

McDonald Funeral Homes, LaFontaine Chapel, 104 South Main Street, LaFontaine, Indiana, have been trusted with Bud Arven's arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

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Bud is survived by Sally, his loving wife of 71 years; one son, Brian K. Arven; three daughters, Teresa (Ralph) Skaggs, Debra (Michael) McKillip, and Jacalyn (Gary) Wilson; nine grandchil-

dren and 20 great-grand-

children.

Private family graveside services will be held at the LaFontaine IOOF Cemetery.

McDonald Funeral Homes, LaFontaine Chapel, 104 South Main Street, LaFontaine, Indiana, have been trusted with Bud Arven's arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

Robin Davis

July 21, 1949 - Oct. 1, 2021

Norma Jean Bradley

July 21, 1949 - Oct. 1, 2021

Eleonore K. Smith

Feb. 18, 1934 - Sept. 30, 2021

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The gospel according to the late Bishop John Shelby Spong

Bishop John Shelby Spong of Newark, New Jersey, never stuck "Why Christianity Must Change or Die" on the doors of Canterbury Cathedral,

since it was easier to post a talking-points version of his manifesto on the internet.

"Theism, as a way of defining God, is dead," he proclaimed in 1998. "Since God can no

longer be conceived in theistic terms, it becomes nonsensical to seek to understand Jesus as the incarnation of the theistic deity."

Lacking a personal God, it was logical to add: "Prayer cannot be a request made to a theistic deity to act in human history in a particular way."

Spong's 12-point take on post-theism faith emerged after spending years on the road, giving hundreds of speeches and appearing on broadcasts such as "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and "Larry King Live."

While leading the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, within shouting range of New York City, he did everything he could to become the news-media face of liberal Christianity.

By the time of his death at the age of 90 – on Sept. 12 at his home in Richmond, Virginia – Spong had seen many of his once-heretical beliefs – especially on sex and marriage – normalized in most Episcopal pulpits and institutions. However, his doctrinal approach was too blunt for many in the mainline establishment, where a quieter "spiritual but not religious" approach has become the norm.

Spong called himself a "doubting believer" and said he had no problem reciting traditional rites and creeds because, in his own mind, he had already redefined the words and images to fit his own doctrines. He also knew when to be cautious, such as during a Denver visit in the late 1980s – an era in which the Diocese of Colorado remained a center for evangelical and charismatic Episcopalians.

After a lecture at the liberal St. Thomas Episcopal Church, I asked Spong if he believed the resurrection of Jesus was a "historic event that took place in real time."

"I don't think that I can say what the disciples believed they experienced. I'll have to think about that some more," he said, moving on to another question.

The bishop answered a de-

cade later, in his memo calling for a new Reformation: "Resurrection is an action of God. Jesus was raised into the meaning of God. It therefore cannot be a physical resuscitation occurring inside human history."

Frequently, Spong floated doctrinal test balloons in *The Voice*, his diocesan newspaper. Here are some other famous quotations.

-- On scripture: "The Gospels portray Jesus as believing that David wrote the Psalms, Solomon the Proverbs and Moses the Torah – a position which any graduate from any accredited seminary would today quickly dismiss."

-- On the Virgin Mary: "The Mary I see in church history is a de-sexed woman. ... Her humanity has been taken away from her, and I think (Mary) makes a very poor symbol."

-- On science: "We have practiced our enormous scientific and technical skills to open doors to aspects of life that once we assigned only to the gods. ... The power of divinity is more and more our own power."

Spong argued that churches that didn't embrace modernity were doomed. Nevertheless, during his era, Episcopal Church membership fell from 3.4 million in the 1960s to 1.6

million in 2019, according to official statistics. During Spong's tenure as bishop (1976-2000), Newark diocese membership declined from 62,732 to 36,674. That number was down to 23,045 in 2019.

Spong was not troubled.

"When Jesus said, 'Come unto me all ye,' he did not add, 'so long as you are not divorced or gay or a woman bishop or a doubter,'" he wrote. "This church of ours may never be the church of the masses; it will never satisfy the emotional needs of the religiously insecure."

Speaking at Drew Theological School in New Jersey, the bishop also urged believers not to worry about eternity.

"Nobody knows what the afterlife is all about; nobody even knows if there is one," Spong said in 2010. "All of these images of bliss and punishment, heaven and hell are not about the afterlife at all. They're about controlling human behavior with fear and guilt. ..."

"We don't need a savior. If Jesus died for your sins, you are one wretched human being. I don't think that's good news."

Terry Mattingly leads GetReligion.org and lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is a senior fellow at the Overby Center at the University of Mississippi.

BEST OF

From page A1

or Pub, Greatest BBQ, Pizza, Breakfast, Prime Rib, Sandwich, Steak, Chicken, Coffee, Hamburger, Pork Tenderloin, Chicken Wings, Cake or Desserts, Ice Cream, Asian Food, Italian Food, Mexican Food and Greek Food.

■ Greatest Local Shop-

ping: Florist, Book Store, Gift Shop, Supermarket, Shoe Store, Antiques, Appliances, Furniture, Hardware, Jewelry, Liquor or Beer or Wine, Mattresses, Meat Market or Butcher, Pet Store and Pools or Hot Tubs.

■ Greatest People:

Bank Teller, Bartender, Server, Teacher, Minister or Pastor, Accountant, Insurance Agent, Interior Designer, Realtor, Attorney, Veterinarian, Financial Advisor, Car Salesman, Stylist and Nail Technician.

■ Greatest Businesses:

Place to work, Not-for-profit business, Banquet Facility, Pre-School or Day Care and Funeral Home.

■ Greatest Auto Ser-

vices: New Car Dealer, Pre-Owned Car Dealer, Auto Repair, Auto Detailing, Car Wash, Oil Change, Towing and Motorcycle Dealer.

■ Greatest Home Ser-

vices: Air Duct Cleaning, Carpet Cleaner, Electrician, Home Improvement, Landscaping Company, Garden Center, Heating and Cooler, Floor Covering and Plumbing.

■ Greatest Personal Care Services: Dance Lessons or School, Gym or Fitness Facility, Hair Salon, Barber Shop, Martial Arts, Pet Grooming, Nail Salon, Shoe Repair, Tanning Salon, Travel Agency and Tattoo Studio.

■ Greatest Local Shop-

ping: Florist, Book Store, Gift Shop, Supermarket, Shoe Store, Antiques, Appliances, Furniture, Hardware, Jewelry, Liquor or Beer or Wine, Mattresses, Meat Market or Butcher, Pet Store and Pools or Hot Tubs.

■ Greatest Financial

Services: Bank, Credit Union, Investment Company, Place To Get a Loan, Place To Get a Mortgage and Place To Get a Car Loan.

■ Greatest Medical Services: Senior Assisted Living Facility, Retirement Center, Hospice, Home Health Care, Rehabilitation Center, Cardiologist, Chiropractor, Nurse, Oncologist, Optometrist, Orthodontist, Pediatrician, Pharmacy, Physical or Occupational Therapist, Podiatrist, Surgeon, Family Doctor, Massage Therapy and Hearing Professional.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

PULSE

From page A1

(800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information.

Manchester University Homecoming Week continues

Manchester University's Homecoming Week has been planned through Saturday, Oct. 9. Virtual events have been planned all week and activities on campus have been planned for Saturday, Oct. 9. For more information, visit www.manchester.edu/alumni/events/homecoming/.

Manchester Symphony Orchestra announces 83rd season

The Manchester Symphony Orchestra under Conductor Debra Lynn heads into its 83rd season with four concerts in the works: Invitation to the Dance is Oct. 10, 2021, in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus of Manchester University. The concert features music from ballet and other works inspired by dance, and it will include Manchester University professors Beate Gilliar and Jim Brumbaugh-Smith dancing to Leroy Anderson's Blue Tango. Holiday Concert on Dec. 12, 2021, in Cordier features the Carol Symphony by Victor Hally-Hutchinson, Sleigh Ride by Frederick Delius, March Militaire by Franz Schubert and The Skater's Waltz by Emile Waldteufel. Trailblazers is March 13, 2022, at the Honeywell Center in Wabash, Indiana. It celebrates African-American composer Florence Price and her Symphony No. 1 in E minor. The concert will also feature high school and college winners of the orchestra's concerto competition. Spaces on May 15, 2022, in Cordier is the final concert of the season, showcasing the world premiere of Lynn's five-movement concerto titled Spaces, written specifically for guest artist Derek Reeves. He is the principal violist of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic. All concerts are at 3 p.m. on Sundays. Masks and social distancing are required.

Woman's Clubhouse to hold October luncheon and program

The Woman's Clubhouse will welcome Dennis Grumpp for their Tuesday, Oct. 12 luncheon and program, according to Ellen Stouffer. Lunch will begin at noon. The MSD retired

teachers will host the program "Bee' My Honey." Grumpp will speak on the "contribution of honey bees to our lives," said Stouffer. For more information, call 260-563-6613 or 619-990-7088.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to hold October meeting

The Wabash County Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, at the Grandstaff-Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave., according to regent Barbara Amiss. The program will be given by Dianne Sedam, northern district director, of Indiana DAR. Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may visit www.dar.org or call Tamra Wise at 574-527-2208 or Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Second Harvest to hold tailgate food distributions

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15; and noon Wednesday, Oct. 13 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182 or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

Grow Wabash County's Annual Dinner Celebration set for Thursday, Oct. 14

Grow Wabash County has announced that MPS Egg Farms has been selected as the 2021 Business of the Year and will be honored during Grow Wabash County's Annual Dinner Celebration from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14 in Legacy Hall at the Honeywell Center. For more information, visit www.growwabashcounty.com/2021-annual-dinner; email marketing@growwabashcounty.com or call 260-563-5258.

NMPL plans return of its annual Halloween Party

The North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) is planning a return of their popular annual Halloween

Party from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14. Tacos Los Gordos will be selling a menu of tacos and quesadillas. The outdoor party would be open to every and feature wagon rides, a spooky egg hunt, hand painting, party games and more. Costume categories will include Spookiest, Silliest, Best Duo, Best Baby, Best Group and Best in Show.

Salamonie Forest Preschool underway

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool from September 2021 through May 2022 for one Tuesday a month or two Tuesdays a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Classes will be held on Wednesdays: Nov. 3, 2021; Dec. 8, 2021; Jan. 5, 2022; Feb. 2, 2022; March 2, 2020; and April 20, 2022. The program fee for the package of six sessions is \$60 per child, ages 6 to 13; additional siblings are \$50. Advance registration is required. Limited space is available. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Annual Dash in the Bash 5K planned at the Wabash County YMCA

The Wabash County YMCA has announced the Annual Dash in the Bash 5K for Saturday, Oct. 30. Registration is open with early bird pricing of \$25. Sign up online or by stopping by the Member Services Desk at the YMCA. Proceeds benefit the Promise Indiana Wabash County Scholarship Fund. For more information, visit www.wabashcountyyymca.org or email pgodfroy@wabashcountyyymca.org. To make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.wabashcountyyymca.org/support-y/donate or email jdriskill@wabashcountyyymca.org.

Dr. Ford Home announces 'fun, family-friendly' event lineup

Honeywell Arts & Entertainment welcomes guests of all ages to Dr. James Ford Historic Home, 177 W. Hill St., for a full schedule of fun, family-friendly events in 2021, including Trick or Treat at the Home during the city of Wabash's trick-or-treat hours; and Wabash and Erie Canal history program with Jeff Koehler at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23. For more

information, visit HoneywellArts.org/dr-ford-home.

Salamonie

'Tweens Among the Trees' Forest School planned

Children ages 6 to 13 are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool from November 2021 through April 2022 at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The class will be offered one Wednesday a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, Andrews. Classes will be held on Wednesdays: Nov. 3, 2021; Dec. 8, 2021; Jan. 5, 2022; Feb. 2, 2022; March 2, 2020; and April 20, 2022. The program fee for the package of six sessions is \$60 per child, ages 6 to 13; additional siblings are \$50. Advance registration is required. Limited space is available. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Dick Quigley Music Festival planned for November

The annual Dick Quigley Music Festival has been planned for the first and second weekends in November in Peru. Rob Nofstiger's Fascinating Rhythm, sponsored by Peru Maennerchor, has been planned from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7 at 154 S. Wabash St., Peru. The event will feature "the usual" carry-in dinner. Combo Night, sponsored by Peru Maennerchor and featuring the No Regrets Blues Band, has been planned for 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12 at 154 S. Wabash St., Peru. Big Band Night, featuring the 19-piece Quigley Jazz Band, has been

scheduled for 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13 at the Riverview Event Center, 421 W. Canal St., Peru.

Manchester

Symphony Orchestra invites entries for concerto competition

In advance of the March 13, 2022 concert, the Manchester Symphony Orchestra invites vocalists, pianists and instrumentalists to register for its 2021-2022 season concerto competition. Competitors must be enrolled in a high school, home school program, college or university during the fall semester of 2021 to be eligible. The application fee is \$25. There are scholarship awards for high school division winners and cash awards for collegiate division winners. The competition is Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021, at Manchester University, and competition winners will perform with the orchestra at 3 p.m. March 13, 2022, during the Trailblazers concert. Tickets are \$15 for general admission. Admission is free for MU students, faculty and staff, as well as anyone age 18 and younger. Visit www.manchester-symphonyorchestra.org to buy tickets or register for the competition.

Manchester Civic Band plans

Timbercrest and Peabody live performances

A Manchester Civic Band performance at Peabody Retirement Community has been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1. This year's Timbercrest Retirement Community performances have been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation's foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

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Sports

A5

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

 WabashPlainDealer.com

Wabash girls basketball poised for another successful season

Apaches will open the season at home Wednesday, Nov. 3 against Taylor

By CLAY MAXFIELD
Wabash Plain Dealer
Freelance Reporter

Wabash's varsity girls basketball team is ready to reload this upcoming season and continue their dominant presence in the Three Rivers Conference.

While the Apaches finished the previous season with an overall record of 15-7 despite being ousted in the first round to sectional champ, Rochester High School (46-40), they rolled into their first round of tourney play on the heels of a seven-game win streak.

This same dominance is something that Wabash head coach Matt Stone is anticipating in a season that he noted will be one ripe with change.

"When you lose that many seniors and you're changing the way your team plays, it's exciting to see if you can do it," Stone said. "If those kids can come back and play a different way and keep up the good play. ... We've got some kids who've played a lot so it's nice to see if they can change their role and keep that going."

"It's always good to see kids adapt when you make that change and continue your success."

Last season, the Apaches graduated six seniors including their two offensive leaders in Mariah Wyatt (12.3



Photo by Bridget Nash / Plain Dealer

Wabash's varsity girls basketball team is ready to reload this upcoming season and continue their dominant presence in the Three Rivers Conference.

ppg) and Alivia Short (11.8 ppg). The aforementioned

also led the team in rebounds with Wyatt pulling down a team and conference-high 12 boards per contest.

Wyatt and Short were both named to all-conference teams from their sophomore season through their senior seasons.

With an absence in post presence this season, Stone will look for a combination of Linda Cordes, Brooke Westendorf, Jade Stumbo, Kierra Wilson and Kasey Long to step up and fill the void of Wyatt and Short.

While the five bigs made up of juniors and seniors are in for a heavy workload in terms of making up the deficit of a

year prior, Stone is confident they are up for the task.

"Those girls as a group will have to make up for those two and that's all you ask of them. Can we get all of them to make up for those 17 or 18 rebounds? Can we get all of them to make up for what we lost from them? ... When you spread out, maybe we can come close. We need that group to do what those two did for us," Stone said.

In terms of guard play, Wabash will look to Libby Mattern and Rylee Yoakum to run the offense as both return with the most experience from a year prior. Mattern and Yoakum combined for nearly 12 points per game last season as well as close to six assists

a game.

A key component that Stone believes has sustained success for Wabash is their presence of two- and three-sport athletes that have made up their teams throughout the years including this current season where the Apaches have had all but one player involved in a fall sport.

"We have kids that are involved in a lot of things and I think that helps. I think it makes you well-rounded and it gives you a break and you come back and you want to play basketball. I think it's made our program the better for it. ... It's made the whole athletic department successful.

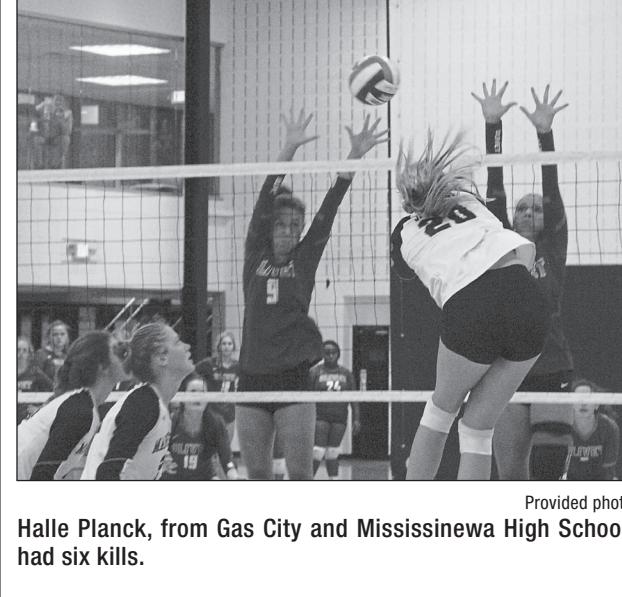
Going into his 8th season as the Apaches' head coach, Stone has led his team to five winning seasons and credits the success Wabash has had as a program-wide influence.

"It's not me, it's the program," Stone said. "We're going on 20 years of success where our worst season is still winning nine or 10 games. ... We've done a great job with our program. My JV coach has been with our girls for 19 years between JV and eighth grade. We have a lot of ex-players who help us and who've been in the program."

"It's kept the program rolling. It's a good place to be in when a program has been successful for that long."

Wabash will open the season at home Wednesday, Nov. 3 against Taylor High School.

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at sports@wabashplaindealer.com.



Provided photo

Halle Planck, from Gas City and Mississinewa High School, had six kills.

MU drops HCAC opener at Hanover

By DILLON BENDER

The Manchester University volleyball team saw its four-game win streak snapped on Friday night as the Spartans fell on the road in straight sets at Hanover College to begin Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) play.

The Panthers took Friday's contest following set scores of 25-14, 25-19 and 25-22. Sara Shultz, from Churubusco and East Noble High School, and Halle Planck, from Gas City and Mississinewa High School, led Manchester with seven and six kills, respectively. Shultz added a pair of solo blocks

and one block assist. Planck had one solo block and a pair of block assists.

Helaina Walters, from Marion and Eastbrook High School, had 10 digs in Friday's contest, while Carly Ripberger, from Tipton, led Manchester with 18 assists.

A trio of Panthers finished in double figures in kills as Hanover hit .222 in the match.

The Spartans (8-8, 0-1 HCAC) will host Bluffton University in Stauffer-Wolfe Arena beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6.

Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.

County CC runners fare well at TRC meet

By ROY CHURCH

43rd in 21:43.97.

Southwood's Casey Boardman finished 14th in 18:29.23 and was followed by Luke Andrews, 29th in 20:11.68; Jacob Marlow, 31st in 20:19.39; Landon Mitchell, 38th in 21:13.2, and Devin Danzy, 54th in 22:30.8.

In the girls event, Manchester finished third and Northfield fourth in a five-team race. The other five schools, including Wabash, did not have complete teams.

Rochester won the event with 35 points, Maconaquah was runner-up with 44 and the Lady Squires had 46 in a very tight race. Northfield had 96 points.

Manchester took fourth, fifth and sixth places in the individual standings with Kadence Fox (20:47.99), Ayla Cashdollar (20:57.52) and Josie Briner (21:13.28), respectively. Kambree Cashdollar was 12th in 22:31.75 and Evyn Fox was 23rd in 23:46.45.

Other Manchester runners were Miriam Struble-Hedstrom, 24th in 23:49.47; Paukie Martin, 27th in 24:11.41, and Ainsley West, 28th in 24:30.74.

The Lady Norse was led by Mara Zolman, 17th in 23:10.75, and Trinity Bevier, 18th in 23:20.71. Ella Gahl was 21st in 23:25.89, Madeline Moore was 25th in 23:59.65 and Asia Miller was 30th in 24:54.07.

Also running for Northfield were Anna Kissel, 36th in 26:08.07, and Natalie Keller, 47th in 33:17.31.

Wabash's Cali Kugler was 20th in a career-best 23:23.69, Ivy Beamer was 31st in 24:58.77 and Grace La Mar was 37th in 26:31.54.

Southwood was not represented.

Northfield, Southwood and Wabash will compete Saturday in the IHSAA's Marion sectional meet at Indiana Wesleyan University along with Blackford, Eastbrook, Huntington North, Madison-Grant, Marion, Mississinewa, Oak Hill and Southern Wells. The meet begins at 10 a.m.

Manchester will host its own sectional at 10:30 a.m. Also coming are Argos, Caston, Culver Academies, Culver Community, North Miami, Plymouth, Rochester, Tippecanoe Valley, Triton and Warsaw.

WMS boys CC season ends with RRC win

By ROY CHURCH

AKRON — For the third year in a row, the Wabash Middle School boys cross country team captured the Running Rivers Conference (RRC) crown at Tippecanoe Valley High School here Saturday.

The Apaches began their season by winning the Wabash County Jr. High Championship and ended the season with another easy victory over nine other schools. Their top five runners took second through sixth place to finish with 20 points.

In between those two titles, Wabash won the Penn, Indiana Wesleyan University and Wabash invites and was runner-up at the West Noble Invite and State Preview Meet in Terre Haute.

The only person ruining the shutout was Manchester's Trey Howard, the two-time county champion, who was runner-up last year at the RRC meet but won this year as an eighth-grader. His winning time was 10:44.75.

Wabash won last year's meet with 21 points.

For the Apaches it was Isaiah Cordes in second place (10:52.18), Drew Guenin-Hodson third (11:00.52), Bobby Shull fourth (11:12.47), Ezra

Church fifth (11:18.04) and Caidan Burchett sixth (11:22.36). The first three finishers and Burchett are eighth-graders running their final race. Church is in seventh grade.

Also finishing for Wabash was Kamden Oswalt in 10th (11:54.92), Coleson Kugler in 11th (12:18.93), Matt Niles in 18th (12:38.55), Jay French in 20th (12:41.65), Raven Weaver in 21st (12:42.08) and Maverick Sommers in 47th (14:43.07).

"I am privileged to have such a great group of boys to work with," head coach Ryan Evans said. "The core of this eighth-grade group has been running since fifth and sixth grades. Throughout the years they have brought new kids to the team who have also enjoyed the sport. Their impact will be missed but they're moving onto bigger things next year."

Behind Howard for the Squires were Wyatt Schroll, 12th in 12:20.24; Oliver Fitzpatrick, 15th in 12:33.17; Clark Showalter, 16th in 12:36.08; Everett Short, 51st in 15:17.8, and Ezra Hendricks, 53rd in 15:44.41, in the 71-man field.

Northfield's Tate Barlow finished seventh in 11:28.92, Eli Gahl was 17th in 12:38.17, Wyatt Bucher was 19th in

12:40.86, Holten Satterwaite was 26th in 13:16.57 and Kourt Pratt was 29th in 13:22.77.

Rounding out the field for the Norse were Preston Moore, 30th in 13:24.46; Ethan Hoover, 32nd in 13:41.48; Ty Leming, 36th in 13:49.96; Xavier Roark, 44th in 14:32.14; Nate Hodson, 46th in 14:41.88; Gavin Lester, 48th in 14:54.53, and Landon Mast, 49th in 15:03.09.

Southwood's top finisher was Zander Chellis, 28th in 13:19.52. He was followed by Andrew Wright, 41st in 14:02.40, and Luc Neal, 45th in 14:37.79.

The Wabash Middle School girls finished second, improving on last year's fourth-place showing. Maconaquah repeated as champion with 27 points to Wabash's 81. The Lady Apaches nipped Northfield by one point and Manchester finished seventh (138).

Wabash had its five scorers between 14th and 21st places. Chloe Cooper led the way in 14th place with a career-best 13:52.07 and Raegan Jones was 15th with a season-best 13:52.28. Ava Bishir was 18th with a career-best 14:05, Quinn Myers was 19th with a career-best 14:08 and Rinka Higuera was 21st in 14:10.

Other Wabash finishers were

Mallory Tart, 27th in 14:38; Haylee Friend, 28th in 14:40; Caitlyn Shidler, 38th in 15:25; Bridget Bailey, 43rd in 15:38; Maya Howard, 46th in 16:13; Mia Fairchild, 47th in 16:22; and Audri Shidler, 52nd in 16:56.

Bailey, Bishir, Friend, Howard and Jones are eighth-graders running their last middle school race.

Maconaquah's Chloe Jordan won the event in 12:22.95.

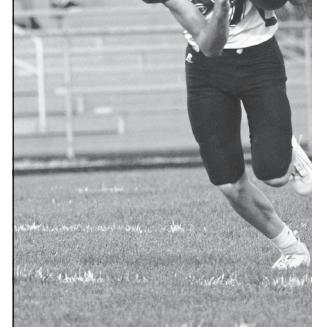
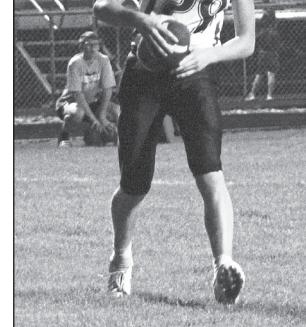
Wabash County teams took four of the top 10 places in the girls event. Northfield's Laney Haupert was second and Kaleigh Rice third in 12:31.09 and 12:36.62, respectively. Southwood's Shelby Thomas was seventh in 13:11.06 and Manchester's Rachel Steely was ninth in 13:26.38.

Behind Haupert and Rice were Teagan Baer, 13th in 13:50.45; Ali Copeland, 30th in 14:49.68, and Amarah Bowers, 44th in 15:38.55.

Steely was followed by Maggie Akins, 22nd in 14:18.99; Kaylee Fetter, 33rd in 15:01.29; Shelby Callih, 50th in 16:47.07; Brynn Harris, 53rd in 16:58.15; Makayla Marcum, 56th in 18:02.02; Kelzei Fox, 58th in 21:07.83, and Avery Akins, 59th in 21:29.38.

Southwood's other finisher was Olivia Ranck, 24th in 14:25.53.

NORTHFIELD FOOTBALL DEFEATS ROCHESTER



Photos by Patrick Murphy / Rochester Sentinel

LEFT: Jake Halderman pitches the ball back to a teammate during Friday's game against Rochester. Northfield won 28-21 on a Halderman pass to Jaxton Peas. MIDDLE: Jaxton Peas celebrates after catching a wide open pass for Northfield to win Friday's game against Rochester. RIGHT: Jaxton Peas runs for a first down for the Northfield Norsemen during Friday's game against Rochester.

Daughter's romantic relationship choices disappoint mom

DEAR ABBY: I have a 23-year-old daughter, "Julia," who I am close with. She has been in a relationship with "Joey," a guy her age, for

four years and living with him for the last 16 months. Joey's a great kid who hasn't had a lot of support in his life. I have been like a mother to him, and we are very close. He works hard, earned a college degree and plans on a career in law enforcement. I love him like my own.

The issue is, Julia has been working a part-time evening job. She works with a man I'll call "Nick," who is 10 years older and has a child. She has started having an affair with him. She claims to love Joey but is "torn" because she's bored and wants to "have fun." I am upset and devastated.

From the sound of him, Nick doesn't have many great qualities. I believe she's making a grave mistake and risks losing a great future. I have tried getting her to see it, but I don't think I'm getting through. Should I continue or back off and see what happens? I feel like I am betraying Joey because I know about this. — Torn-Apart Mom

DEAR MOM: As much as you might wish to, you cannot live Julia's life for her. From your description of your daughter, she's not ready for marriage or even a permanent commitment. Joey may be the catch of a lifetime, but if she can't appreciate him and the life he has to offer, he isn't the man for her. Step back and allow her to make her own mistakes, because that's how people learn. And when the truth comes out, tell Joey how sorry you are that things turned out the way they did and that you will always love him like a son.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 50-year-old woman, and this is the second time my dad has mentioned that he and Mom thought about aborting me before I was born. He qualifies this statement by exclaiming, "I just called to let you know I'm so GLAD your mother and I didn't go through with the abortion, and how HAPPY I am that you are here." The thing is, until he said it, I never knew it had crossed their minds.

He knew his statement upset me, yet he brought it up again tonight in a phone call, with even more disturbing information — that they had even gone to a doctor to get it done! He uses subtle ways to sneak the new information in, even though he knows it's hurtful. What is his motive? What does he want? Why does he do this? — Perplexed In Alabama

DEAR PERPLEXED: Saying something one knows is hurtful is cruel. If you haven't discussed this bizarre scenario with your mother, you should. Could dear old Dad be losing it? Is he seeking gratitude from you? Was he drunk when he made the call? His behavior is so far from normal I can't imagine why he would say such a thing TWICE. Because he may be trying to get a rise out of you, consider deflecting with humor or sarcasm or simply hanging up.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear
Abby



CROSSWORD

ACROSS	39 Waste maker?
1 Outshine	40 Explain further
4 Expert pilot	41 Sports "zebra"
7 Ladder type	42 Soft color
11 Teahouse attire	45 Gazing at
12 Mashed potato serving	49 Linchpin locale
14 Antacid brand	50 Online auction site
15 So far	52 Caesar's lucky number?
16 Asian princess	53 Bard's tragic king
17 Sleeve fillers	54 Extinct bird
18 Computer network	55 Visitor from Melmac
20 Like some milk	56 Shade trees
22 Agt. chain	57 Provo inst.
23 Fast food parties	58 Volleyball need
24 Lavish parties	
27 Beat	
30 Styptic	
31 Leak giveaway	
32 Channels 2-13	
34 Some, to Yvette	
35 Least of the litter	
36 Hi or bye	
37 Hymn-singing groups	
DOWN	
1 Playthings	29 Not this fence
2 Follow orders	33 Ally opposite
3 Sets against	35 Carnival attraction
4 Thinks the same	36 Bistro
5 Gripping device	38 Wayne genre
	39 "Vol" (2 wds.)
	41 All set
	42 Whey-faced
	43 Eddie Murphy — Foley
	44 Door sound
	46 Czar name
	47 Giza's river
	48 Present
	51 Mr. Newhart



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

5	8	3	9	2	1	7	6	4
6	2	7	3	4	5	9	8	1
4	9	1	8	7	6	3	5	2
9	4	6	5	3	8	1	2	7
3	7	5	6	1	2	4	9	8
2	1	8	7	9	4	6	3	5
1	3	4	2	5	9	8	7	6
7	6	2	4	8	3	5	1	9
8	5	9	1	6	7	2	4	3

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Saturday's Jumbles: HOVER Answer: When the mountain climbers chatted, they talked about what they'd — BEEN UP TO

UNITY PENCIL BUFFET

AFTER LEARNING HOW TO SAY "HELLO" IN FOUR LANGUAGES, HER PARENTS GAVE HER ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 1-202-224-5623 <http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-4814 <http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate 200 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN 46204 1-800-382-9467 Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18
Indiana House 200 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN 46204 1-800-382-9841 h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website: www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

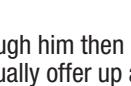
Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the news-paper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Hebrews 13:15

Huntington Beach shore: Why the U.S. needs to end coastal drilling

The Orange County coastline has become the latest casualty of the nation's unhealthy dependence on oil. In one of the biggest California spills in decades, a pipeline connected to an offshoot oil platform off the coast of Huntington Beach released at least 126,000 gallons of crude over the weekend.

By Sunday morning, the smell of diesel and tar hovered in the coastal air as clumps of crude washed ashore, along with dead birds and fish. Out on the water, a vast oil slick larger than city of Santa Monica had formed. And crews worked feverishly to clean up the oil that had seeped into the delicate coastal marshlands and to prevent greater damage to this essential habitat for migratory birds. Orange County officials estimate that the affected beaches could be closed for weeks or even months.

This is why the U.S. needs to end coastal oil drilling.

Some 23 oil and gas drilling platforms are in federal waters off the California coastline. This spill originated from a platform called Elly, which was installed in 1980. Elly sits above a large reservoir of

oil, in waters overseen by the U.S. Department of the Interior. Environmentalists have long warned that aging oil facilities off the coast pose a serious risk, with one activist calling them "time bombs."

New drilling permits haven't been issued since 1980s, but that almost changed under former President Trump. His administration sought to open all federal waters off the U.S. coastline to oil and natural gas exploration. The backlash from states was swift. Trump reversed course and proposed expanding bans on off-shore drilling in select federal waters.

California Sen. Dianne Feinstein proposed a bill in January that would permanently bar the federal government from allowing new leases to allow for the exploration, development or production of oil or natural gas off the coast of California, Oregon and Washington state.

It's not hard to understand why states don't want to see more drilling off the coast. Local economies are dependent on tourism, commercial and recreational fishing, leisure boating and other activities that benefit from clean, healthy coast-

al waters. In Huntington Beach, officials had to cancel the final day of the three-day Pacific Airshow, which draws thousands of people to watch flyovers by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and other jets.

While large-scale spills are somewhat rare in California, they can be devastating when they occur. In 2015, a pipeline along U.S. 101 broke and sent more than 100,000 gallons of oil into the nearby coast. Some 204 birds and 106 marine mammals died as a result of the spill, and Refugio State Beach was closed for two months while workers tried to remove the oil. Spills at sea are exceedingly more difficult to clean up than those on land, and the oil they unleash spreads with the currents. We already know the U.S. needs to wean itself off oil and gas to help the planet avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

This spill illustrates that the threat to the coastal environment isn't just hypothetical and that we need to move much faster to phase out coastal oil drilling.

This editorial was first published in the Los Angeles Times.

The public's right to be heard

At the conclusion of a recent Allen County Commission meeting, the commission president became annoyed with a woman who refused to shut up when her allotted time expired under the public speaking rules. He warned her that people not following the rules risked having no public comment at all.

"Local government boards," the newspaper article chronicling the meeting gently reminded its readers, "are not legally obligated to allow public comments at meetings."

Too true, and a lot of Indiana government units are flirting with the idea of blessed silence at meetings, including Northwest Allen's and other school boards. "The public" is just a polite term for a bunch of ignorant whiners and ill-informed complainers. Letting them run off at the mouth just slows things down and gums up the works.

Those inclined to complain would probably get little understanding from the Indiana General Assembly, which hammers out the details of major legislation in private meetings of the GOP super majority, letting the public see the result at the same time as the hapless Democratic mini minority.

Nor would they find a sympathetic ear in Congress, whose speaker seems proud of the fact that the public can learn what is in bills running thousands of pages only after the bills become law. Got a comment – oops, too late.

It's the spirit of the age, isn't it? On college campuses, professors can be fired for having the wrong opinion, and there are safe spaces where any opinion that makes any student uncomfortable is forbidden. Facebook and Twitter monitor their users for unorthodox opinions on everything from COVID to climate change and transgenderism, and even the president of the United States can be banned.

As someone who has spent a lifetime both offering and combatting opinions, who has always believed that a good, healthy argument is the surest path to the truth, I find this all more than a little distressing.

It was Daniel Patrick Moynihan, in a 1983 column in the Washington Post, who observed that "everyone is entitled to his own opinion but not to his own facts."

It seemed so clear then. Opinions were good or bad, based on the accuracy of the facts under-girding them and our evaluations of their significance, and in debating them, we discarded bits of misconception and glimpsed pieces of the truth.

Today, the line between facts and opinion is deliberately blurred by those who think they already know the truth and have the right, even the obligation, to shout down those who don't accept it. And I wonder if those who applaud that reality have considered where we might be headed.

Moynihan, some will recall, though a Democrat and a firebrand liberal in many ways, was also a contrarian who for a time served in the administration of Richard Nixon. You remember Nixon. His appeals to the "silent majority" of Americans whose voices were never heard won him the presidency.

And it turns out he wasn't the first. In 1919, ad executive and Republican Party supporter Bruce Barton wrote in Collier magazine of Calvin Coolidge's presidential run: "It sometimes seems as if this great silent majority had no spokesman. But Coolidge belongs with that crowd: he lives like them, he works like them, and understands."

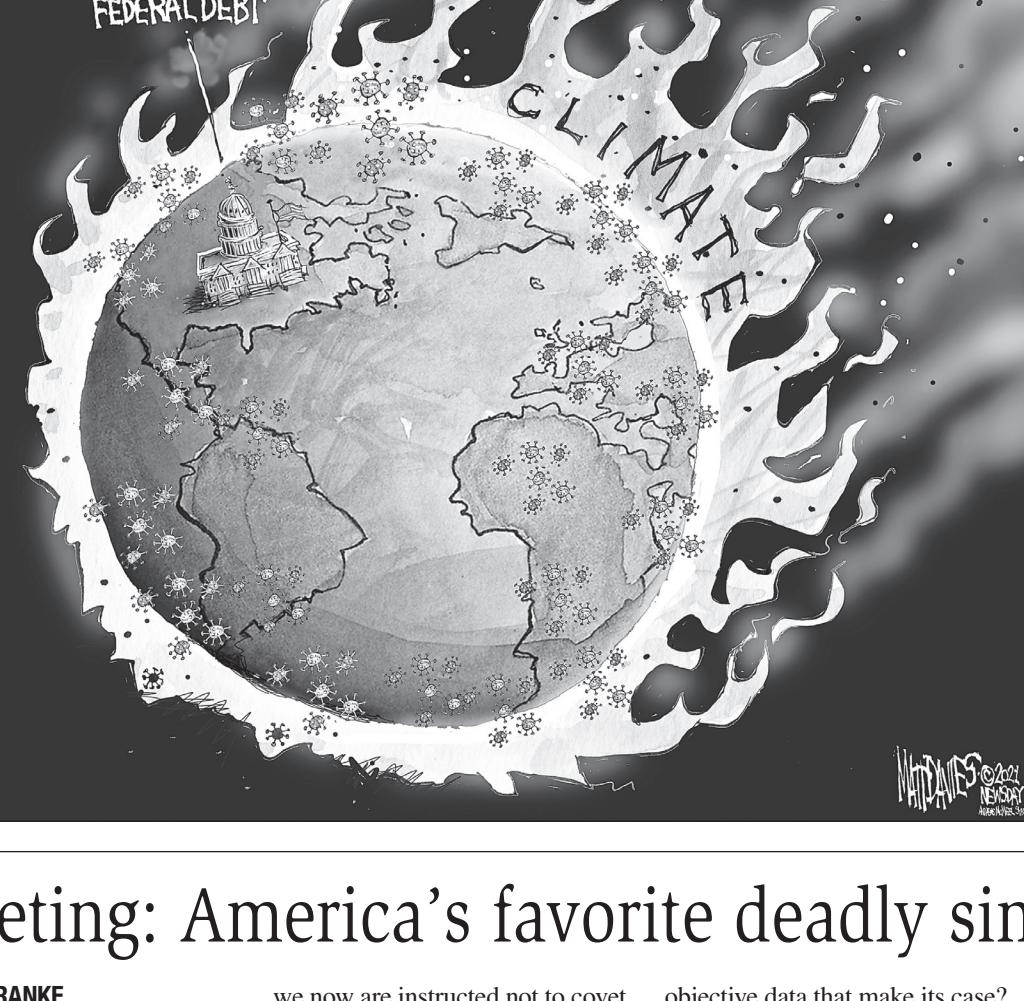
I still believe that airing all the opinions is the best way to elevate the discussion. That's how the country got started and why we have the First Amendment, because the Founders believed that "from many voices," truth emerged.

Do you think otherwise? If you think Coolidge was a lousy president, and you think Richard Nixon was nothing but a crook, do you still believe ignoring a wide swatch of the American people was a good idea? How about Donald Trump? His constituents felt that the ruling elite not only refused to listen to them but held them in utter contempt.

You think they're not still out there? Perhaps when they get a chance to speak up, they don't follow the rules of public comment as well as they should. But they will be heard.

Sooner or later, one way or another.

Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at leoeditz@yahoo.com.



Coveting: America's favorite deadly sin

By MARK FRANKE

We now are instructed not to covet our neighbor's donkey rather than his ass. Not all modernization is bad.

One aspect of Luther's theological genius is that he taught the commandments as more than "thou shalt nots," interpreting the commandments through the positive actions God demands. So with the donkey in question, we are told not to entice it away from our neighbor but urge it to stay and do its duty. Be assured; if my neighbor ever gets a donkey, I definitely will urge it to stay and do its duty.

Maybe I didn't understand coveting during my formative years, but I certainly do now. Just follow the news. The underlying motivation for the "tax the rich" political agenda is based on covetousness. They have something they don't deserve and we want it. Rather than be joyful about my neighbor's good fortune, I am told that it rightfully belongs to me.

It is no longer a simple matter of keeping up with the Joneses; it has devolved to resenting what the Joneses have and believing that you are more deserving of it. In a word: coveting.

Having sat in chapel reciting with the school children, I could not help but reflect on how covetousness has become the invidious foundation of our culture. My thoughts then went from there to our political environment.

Why is it that one of our major political parties has built an economic agenda with coveting as the underlying principle? Is it to motivate the voters by appealing to their baser instincts? And why does the other major political party have such difficulty in explaining its economic agenda in simple terms and supporting it with all the

objective data that make its case? Must emotion trump data?

It is easy to blame the career politicians for our dysfunctional system but we need to remember that we voted for them, at least a majority of us did in each individual case. We can blame the national media for its deliberate distortions and lack of journalistic professionalism but then we keep tuning in, increasing their ratings and their ability to sell advertising.

They appeal to our covetous natures because it works for them, to get elected or to sell merchandise. The Ten Commandments and the church's seven deadly sins included covetousness because it is an all too prevalent part of human nature. That lesson is not lost on our political and media elites.

Even Aesop understood this. Recall his fable of the dog with the bone in its mouth which saw its reflection in the stream and thought it was another dog with a bigger bone.

Coveting did not lead to happy endings in Aesop's day nor will it in ours. Yet we as a nation seem unwilling or incapable of being led by the better part of our nature.

I am being unfair, in at least one respect. God did not ordain the commandments just so we could judge others. He meant them to be personal for each of us. So I better look inwardly at my propensity to covet that which is not mine.

Fortunately for me, another of the deadly sins is sloth. My defense is that I am too lazy to covet. Do you think St. Peter will buy that excuse at the pearly gates?

Mark Franke, M.B.A., an adjunct scholar at the Indiana Policy Review and its book reviewer, is formerly an associate vice-chancellor at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Contact him at leoeditz@yahoo.com.

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0150 GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

MARION
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AKC German Shepherd Pups Shots, Wormed, Vet Checked & Micro chipped. \$1500. Call or Text 765-661-6068 or 765-243-1450

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0900

NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of Wabash County, Indiana, that the proper legal officers of the Wabash County Council will meet on Monday October 18, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. EST at the Wabash County Courthouse meeting room on the second floor to consider the following Additional Appropriation requests in excess of the budget for 2021.

Misdemeanant Fund Other Services and Charges Equipment Repairs \$2,500.00
Adult Probation Admin Fees Personal Services Probation Officer FICA/SS/PERF \$9,723.00
\$3,218.00

9/30/2021
Wabash County Auditor
Marcie Shepherd
HSPAXLP.10/06/2021

0900

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF WABASH) SS:
IN THE WABASH CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NUMBER: 85C01-2110-JT-000032
IN THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION
OF THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP:

KB - DOB 1/14/2018
AND

CORY BOWERS (MOTHER) AND ANY UNKNOWN ALLEGED FATHERS SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION & NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS HEARING TO: Cory Bowers and Any Unknown Alleged Father Whereabouts unknown

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above noted parent whose whereabouts are unknown, as well as Any Unknown Alleged Fathers, whose whereabouts are also unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed a Petition for Involuntary Termination of your Parental Rights, and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled with the Court.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Judge of the Wabash Circuit Court, 49 West Hill Street, Wabash, IN 46992 - 260-563-0661 for a(n) Fact Finding Hearing on 12/15/2021 at 1:00 PM and to answer the Petition for Termination of your Parental Rights of said child.

You are further notified that if the allegations in said petition are true, and/or if you fail to appear at the hearing, the Juvenile Court may terminate your parent-child relationship; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship you will lose all parental rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties and obligations including any rights to custody, control, visitation, or support in said child; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, it will be permanently terminated, and thereafter you may not contest an adoption or other placement of said child.

You are entitled to representation by an attorney, provided by the State if applicable, throughout these proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship.

YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, adjudication on said petition and termination of your parental rights may be entered against you, in your absence, without further notice.

/s/ Lori J. Draper (SEAL)
Clerk

Kaylee Crites, Esq, 32338-34
Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services
403 S. Cass St.
Wabash, IN 46992
FAX: 317-232-1566
Office: 574-722-3677
HSPAXLP.10/06/10/13,10/20/2021

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COVID

From page A1

30, there were 1,447 new hospital admissions, with all but around 10 of those being unvaccinated.

Of those who were hospitalized, 241 were admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), with all but around 10 of those being unvaccinated.

During that same week, the ISDH reported 219 total COVID-19 deaths in the state, with just over 10 of those being unvaccinated.

Local vaccination rates have continued lagging behind the state average. In the zip code 46992, which comprises Wabash, 42.2 percent of the eligible population has been vaccinated. Statewide, that figure sits at 56 percent.

But even as officials have struggled to get even the initial shots into the arms of Hoosiers, eligible populations in the state are now able to receive booster shots, as well.

In July, Pfizer proposed a third COVID-19 vaccine booster shot but was quickly rebuffed by the CDC and Food and FDA. In August, the FDA reversed course, at least somewhat, by authorizing an additional Pfizer or Moderna vaccine dose for certain immunocompromised individuals. Although, the FDA did not go so far as to say other fully vaccinated individuals also needed an additional dose.

ELECTRIC CAR

From page A1

bringing a piece of history they never even knew about back to life."

Jeff Galley said the students are working in class on the electrical needs, components, scheduling and other items the Comuta-Car restoration will require. The physical work on the vehicle is slated to begin by the middle of this month.

Jeff Galley said the students will be confronted with the question of whether to build the batteries from scratch or use those obtained over the counter.

"This is an item they are studying now and trying to determine what's best," said Jeff Galley.

Teresa Galley said one of the challenges the students will face is the improved technology.

The vehicle currently uses eight 6-volt batteries to run and a 12-volt battery while it is driving.

"The students plan to use lithium-ion technology ... which will improve charging time and battery life," said Teresa Galley.

Jeff Galley said, originally the car had a top speed of about 40 miles with a battery range of 40 miles.

"By building their lithium-ion batteries, does this extend the range as well speed?" said Jeff Galley.

Jeff Galley said another major issue they were working on was finding a location to work do the actual work.

"The museum does not have room and working on it outside is not an option due to weather, so we will need to have it at the school in a garage area. All of these logistic and engineering issues are what the students will be working on using collaborative groups and various problem-solving techniques," said Jeff Galley.

Justin Denney, the teacher leading the project, said that his motivator for taking on the project is that the students are far more engaged when they are working to complete a project with a culminating goal.

Jeff Galley said students will study a wide range of engineering topics during the PLTW Principles of Engineering course.

"Seen as an engineering introduction course they will study mechanisms, the strength of structure and materials, automation, and robotics," said Jeff Galley. "They are learning about the major concepts they will encounter in a post-secondary engineering course of study."

Jeff Galley said last year, students in the course built an electric bike from scratch, taking a simple bike frame and then building it from the ground up, including the battery, gearboxes, electrical wiring and more.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Thursday, Sept. 23 recommended the administration of a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine to counter waning immunity in specific populations following the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) decision to expand its Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to include the boosters.

On Friday, Sept. 24, the ISDH announced that booster doses of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine are available to eligible Hoosiers following federal authorization of the additional dose.

The single booster dose can be administered at least six months after completion of the second dose and applies only to individuals who previously received the Pfizer vaccine. Individuals who received the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccines are not eligible at this time.

According to the CDC, individuals ages 65 and older and residents of long-term care facilities should receive a booster dose; individuals ages 50 to 64 with underlying medical conditions that put them at high risk of severe COVID-19 should receive a booster dose; individuals ages 18 to 49 with underlying medical conditions may receive a booster dose, based on their benefits and risks; and individuals ages 18 to 64 who are at high risk of COVID-19 exposure

COVID-19 in Indiana

For the week of Sept. 30, 2021

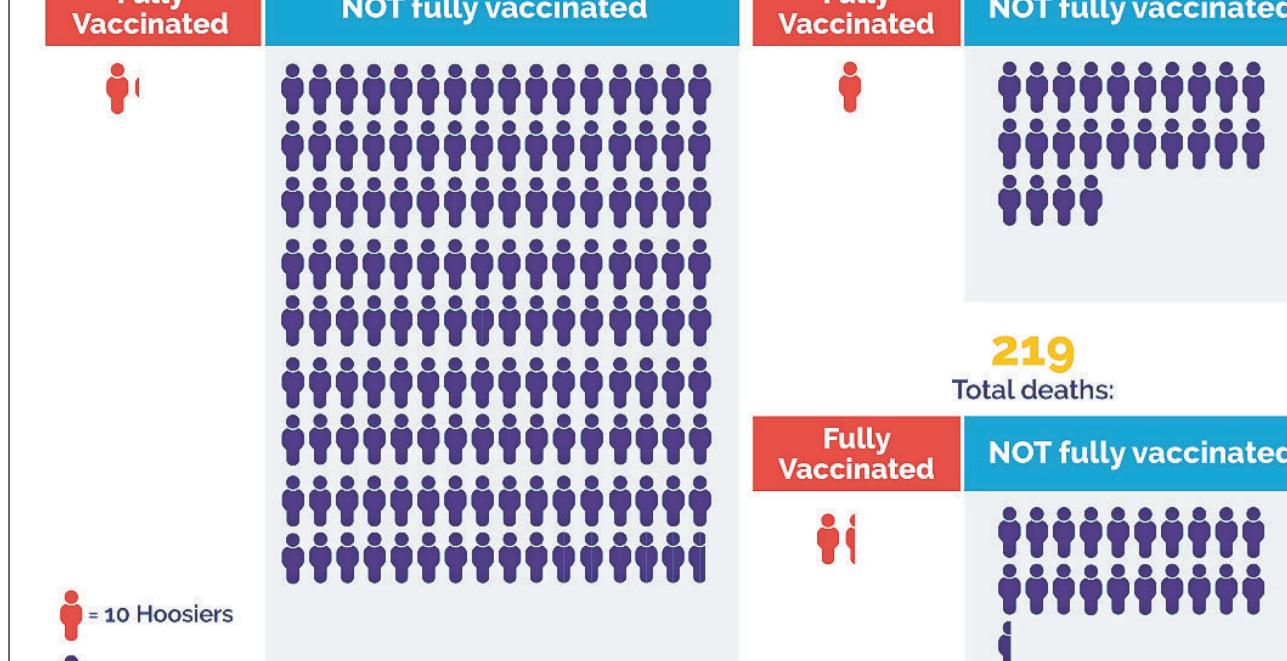
**241**

Total admitted to ICU:

Fully Vaccinated	NOT fully vaccinated
1	240

1,447

New hospital admissions:

**219**

Total deaths:

Fully Vaccinated	NOT fully vaccinated
1	218

According to the ISDH's most recent data chronicling the recent surge of COVID-19 infections, the vast majority of deaths are occurring among people who are not vaccinated.

and transmission because of occupational or institutional risk of exposure may receive a booster shot based on their benefits and risks.

Eligible Hoosiers who want to obtain a booster dose can

go to www.ourshot.in.gov and search for a site that has the Pfizer vaccine, which is designated by PVAX or call 211 for assistance. Hoosiers are encouraged to bring their vaccination card to their ap-

pointment to ensure that the booster dose is added.

Upon arriving at the vaccination clinic, Hoosiers will be asked to attest that they meet the eligibility requirements listed above. That

attestation began being incorporated into the online appointment registration at www.ourshot.in.gov.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

Provided graphic

**CONCERT**

From page A1

It features A Cappella Choir, Chamber Singers and Jazz Ensemble.

A Cappella Choir is the university's largest mixed choir, with about 40 students. Chamber Singers is a smaller, auditioned group of the A Cappella Choir. Both are under the direction of Professor Debra Lynn, director of vocal studies and department chair.

The Jazz Ensemble is under the direction of Associate Professor Scott Humphries, director of bands and music education.



Provided photos

The Manchester Symphony Orchestra under Conductor Debra Lynn heads into its 83rd season with four concerts in the works.



The Jazz Ensemble is under the direction of Associate Professor Scott Humphries, director of bands and music education.

How to submit news tips

People can submit news to news@wabashplaindealer.com. The newsroom can be reached by calling 260-563-2131 and pressing the number corresponding to "newsroom." Our address is 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

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Palliative Care • Hospice Care • Hospice Home • Grief Support

Outage highlights how vital Facebook has become worldwide

By MAE ANDERSON
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The six-hour outage at Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp was a headache for many casual users but far more serious for the millions of people worldwide who rely on the social media sites to run their businesses or communicate with relatives, fellow parents, teachers or neighbors.

When all three services went dark Monday, it was a stark reminder of the power and reach of Facebook, which owns the photo-sharing and messaging apps.

Around the world, the breakdown at WhatsApp left many at a loss. In Brazil, the messaging service is by far the most widely used app in the country, installed on 99 percent of smartphones, according to tech pollster Mobile Time.

WhatsApp has become essential in Brazil to communicate with friends and family, as well as for a variety of other tasks, such as ordering food. Offices, various services and even the courts had trouble making appointments, and phone lines became overwhelmed.

Hundreds of thousands of Haitians in their homeland and abroad fretted over the WhatsApp outage.

Many of the country's more than 11 million people depend on it to alert one another about gang violence in particular neighborhoods or to talk to relatives in the U.S. about money transfers and other important matters. Haitian migrants traveling to the U.S. rely on it to find each other or share key information such as safe places to sleep.

Nelzy Mireille, a 35-year-old unemployed woman who depends on money sent from relatives abroad, said she stopped at a repair shop in the capital of Port-au-Prince because she thought her phone was malfunctioning.

"I was waiting on confirma-

tion on a money transfer from my cousin," she said. "I was so frustrated."

"I was not able to hear from my love," complained 28-year-old Wilkens Bourgogne, referring to his partner, who was in the neighboring Dominican Republic, buying goods to bring back to Haiti. He said he was concerned about her safety because of the violence in their homeland.

"Insecurity makes everyone worry," he said.

In rebel-held Syria, where the telecommunication infrastructure has been disrupted by war, residents and emergency workers rely mostly on internet communication.

Naser AlMuhawish, a Turkey-based Syrian doctor who monitors coronavirus cases in rebel-held territory in Syria, said WhatsApp is the main communication method used with over 500 workers in the field.

They switched to Skype, but WhatsApp works better when internet service is shaky, he said. If there had been an emergency such as shelling that he needed to warn field workers about, there could have been major problems, he said.

"Luckily this didn't happen yesterday during the outage," he said.

But hospitals treating COVID-19 patients in the region were thrown into panic. They lost contact with oxygen suppliers who have no fixed location and are normally reached via WhatsApp. One hospital sent staff member searching for oxygen at nearly two dozen facilities, said Dr. Fadi Hakim of the Syrian American Medical Society.

In Lima, Peru, the breakdown complicated dental technician Mary Mejia's job. Like most Peruvian medical workers, she uses WhatsApp for a multitude of tasks, including scheduling appointments and ordering crowns.

"Sometimes the doctor will

be working on a patient and I need to contact a technician for job," she said. "To have to step away and make a phone call? It trips us up. We've become so accustomed to this tool."

Millions of Africans use WhatsApp for all their voice calls, so "people felt they were cut off from the world," said Mark Tinka, a Ugandan who heads engineering at SEACOM, a South Africa-based internet infrastructure company.

Many Africans also use WhatsApp to connect with relatives in other countries. Tinka's stepdaughter lives in Caldwell, Idaho, and lost her father on Sunday, but could not speak with her family back in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, to arrange travel for the funeral.

"It's amazing just how little folks understand the impact of three or four content companies on the utility of the Internet," Tinka said.

Facebook said the outage was due to an internal error related to a "configuration change" but gave no details.

The outage came amid a crisis at Facebook, accused by a whistleblower on "60 Minutes" and on Capitol Hill of profiting from hate and division and suppressing research showing that Instagram contributes to body-image problems, eating disorders and thoughts of suicide in young women.

For small businesses, the outages meant hundreds or thousands of dollars in lost revenue.

Andrawos Bassous is a Palestinian photographer in the Israeli-occupied West Bank whose Facebook page has more than 1 million followers. He has worked with companies including Samsung and Turkish Airlines to create social media content. He said the social media blackout meant he was unable to book appointments or share videos online for companies that employ him.

Black colleges' funding hopes dim amid federal budget battle

By PIPER HUDSPETH
BLACKBURN and ANNIE MA
Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Optimism for transformational funding for the nation's historically Black colleges was running high after the Biden administration included \$45 billion for the schools in its massive multitrillion dollar spending plan.

That outlook quickly soured as the funding became ensnared in Democratic infighting over the size of the economic package and what it should cover. The latest iteration of the bill includes just \$2 billion that can go toward educational programs and infrastructure for Black colleges, and even that amount would be reduced to competitive grant funding rather than direct allocations.

That's especially disappointing for many smaller, private historically Black colleges that don't have the endowments as their larger and more well-known peers. They often struggle to upgrade their campuses and programs, hurting their ability to attract students.

The Biden administration's original \$3.5 trillion proposal called for sending at least \$45 billion to Black colleges and other minority-serving institutions to update their research programs, create incubators to help students innovate and help traditionally underserved populations.

Getting a slice of that

would have been a boon to Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas, a private historically Black college. President Roderick L. Smothers said federal coronavirus relief money was instrumental in helping the university survive the pandemic with technology upgrades and student support, but he said Biden's original proposal provided the kind of money that would have had a long-term impact.

"We used the funds that we

received to serve the students that we have, and now we're asking for additional funds to make sure that when we are on the other side of this global pandemic our institutions will be bigger and better and more resilient," Smothers said.

The college increased its enrollment by 43 percent between 2010 and 2019, the latest data available, but saw its endowment drop 18 percent during the same time frame, according to federal data analyzed by The Associated Press. Overall, enrollment at the nation's roughly 102 Black colleges has been declining — from 326,827 in 2010 to 289,507 in 2019.

Beyond building upgrades, Smothers said Philander Smith College would have used the long-term federal funding to expand programs for its students, 81 percent of which are low income. That might include launching a public health school that would train students to tackle health disparities affecting racial minorities and help address the state's nursing shortage.

Democratic Rep. Bobby Scott of Virginia, who leads the U.S. House education committee, said historically Black colleges have received unprecedented levels of federal funding over the past two years, more than they have in the past decade combined. That includes \$1.6 billion under the Democrats' American Rescue Plan passed earlier this year.

The money has allowed them to pursue initiatives such as cancelling student debt during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Scott, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, said the draft bill also includes \$27 billion for student aid at Black colleges and other institutions serving racial minorities. Still, he acknowledged the need for more funding.

"We'd like to do as much

as we can," Scott said. "I'm not satisfied. I'm not satisfied with anything in the budget that's within our jurisdiction."

Scott said the Department of Education had committed to ensuring the grant program contained in the current bill would be structured so similar colleges would be competing with each other. It's a way to prevent larger ones with robust grant-writing departments from edging out smaller schools.

That's important to address vast differences between the colleges. The Associated Press analysis of enrollment and endowment data found wide disparities among the 102 historically Black colleges and universities, and a further divide between private and public institutions. Federal data, for example, showed that 11 HBCUs had endowments worth less than \$1,000 per pupil in the 2018-19 school year while nine had endowments worth more than \$50,000 per pupil.

In general, Black colleges have lacked the fundraising ability of other universities. The cumulative endowment for all historical Black colleges through 2019 was a little more than \$3.9 billion, about the same as the endowment for just the University of Minnesota. Advocates said the funding struggles and the role the colleges have played historically is why long-term federal assistance is needed.

Harry L. Williams, president of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, which represents public HBCUs, was surprised and disappointed by the reduced allocation for Black colleges in the latest Democratic economic plan, which likely will be trimmed to around \$2 trillion. He also said they should not be lumped in with other institutions serving racial minorities, which he said can include many large state universities.

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